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turrets, and gables; cut terraces along the sides and shade them with fine trees; take a river as big as the Tweed at Kelso, but of bright blue color, and wind it round the town, leaving only a narrow neck to join it to the mainland; cover its high banks on the other side with villas and gardens and great walnut-trees, and planes with brilliant green turf under them; and beyond all, look upon the white peaks of the Oberland fringing the whole southern horizon from east to west, and then you have some idea of the capital of this little republic."

Sir Baldwyn Leighton has speculated in his first Preface upon the political position which Edward Denison might one day have occupied, and has given a summary of the views he held. These letters hardly bear him out in his remarks. They are full of generous impulses, of hasty generalizations, and are characterized by a strong love of truth and contempt of cant; but the mind of the writer is in no settled state, and his opinions often share the fate of those expressed at the age of twenty-seven or twenty-eight. At one time, in the middle of his canvass, he thinks that political life is not, and believes that abstract political speculation is, his *métier*. At another he dreams of a farm in Tasmania, and a settlement of English laborers around him. One thing, however, is certain, whatever might have been his public career, he would have brought to the consideration and elucidation of social questions all the advantages which accrue from intercourse with the poor, a knowledge of, and sympathy with, their requirements, a clear insight into the laws which affect them, a gentle manner, and a high sense of duty. His friends, we are told, have erected a window to his memory in the Cathedral of Christ Church at Oxford; but the best memorial will always be found in these letters,—the earnest expressions of a man to whom the nineteenth century, in spite of its improvements, seemed incomplete, and whose short life was spent in an endeavor to reconcile its contradictions.

5. — *Brief on Behalf of Authors and Publishers in Favor of International Copyright, before Joint Committee of the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.* DILLAWAY AND ANDREWS, of Counsel. Washington. 1872.

ONE of the best measures of the civilization of a people is afforded by their willingness to recognize the equal rights of their fellow-men, irrespective of race or nationality. Commencing with the savage, for whom none but his companions have any rights whatever, we may trace a regular gradation to a state hardly yet reached by any nation, in which the law shall make no distinction of residence or nationality

in respect of protection to person or property, and of liberty to exchange services. Immaterial rights are the last to be recognized, but they must also be included. It is therefore not to our credit that we still confine to citizens and residents that right of an author to his works, the validity of which is universally recognized by enlightened nations. An effort is now being made to remedy this defect in our system, and we propose to say something of the plans suggested. The committee of Congress on the Library has now no less than four bills before it for this purpose.

The authors' bill simply grants to foreign authors the same rights now granted to native authors, without any restriction whatever. It is conceded that, at the present time, this bill stands no chance of becoming a law, because it will greatly interfere with the extensive and lucrative business of appropriating the works of foreign authors, and reissuing them in an American dress. To the average Pennsylvania Congressman it looks like a gross piece of injustice to strike so heavy a blow at this branch of "home industry." We will suggest a single reflection on this point. Suppose the British public should absolutely prevent the exportation of a single copy of the writings of any of their authors, so that our printers and publishers could not find out what they wrote. We could still print and publish as many books as we pleased, but could put nothing in them from abroad. The blow to our book-making interests would be more severe than that inflicted by the most stringent international copyright. That the simple erection of such a fence around the British literary garden should operate so disastrously upon us proves that our book-makers are sustained by something valuable from abroad, and suggests some analogies to their arguments against being injured in business. It would be interesting to note, in such a case, at what price incoming passengers who had read the latest productions of Reade or Tyndal, and were gifted with perfect memory, could sell their information.

At the other extreme stands Mr. Appleton's bill. It proposes to grant copyright to foreign authors under several restrictions, for some of which we see no reason. The book must be wholly the product of the mechanical industry of the United States, and this American edition must be ready for sale within three months of the date of publication abroad. If, from any cause whatever, the American publisher fails to bring the book out within the required time, or to keep it on sale, the author loses all his rights. The foreign edition is completely excluded from the American market.

Neither this proposal to punish the author for any possible delinquency of an agent on the other side of the ocean, nor the absolute

exclusion of foreign editions, has met with favor at Washington, and they may be considered as disposed of by the compromise bill of Mr. Andrews. This has, we believe, been accepted both by the foreign authors, through their representatives, and by such of our publishers as are willing to accede foreign copyright on any terms whatever, including Mr. Appleton himself. It grants the foreign author his rights on the condition that he shall manufacture and publish his work in the United States. A delay to do this does not operate as a direct forfeiture of his copyright, but only subjects him to the peril of having his work appropriated without redress, by any American publisher who may think it worth seizing.

This bill has at least one point of strength, great brevity. It is a curious fact, and one we wish some expert would explain, that a law on any subject, on its passage through Congress, meets with obstructions which are directly proportional to the care with which it has been elaborated to meet every possible case that may arise under it. In Congress brevity seems to be considered the soul of legal wisdom rather than of wit.

The question of the importation of foreign editions is one to be settled between the author and his American publisher. We may reasonably expect that the former will generally sell to the latter the exclusive privilege of sale in the United States, so that the foreign edition cannot be introduced, or, at any rate, sold, without special arrangements for reciprocity between the publishers of the two countries. There is, however, no occasion for making the investment of such right in the American publisher compulsory, as in Mr. Appleton's bill. The effect would be that the franchise which the author had to sell would be a little more valuable, but as he can fix his own price, he can charge more for it in the same proportion. To the author, it is a matter of comparative indifference where the copies of his book sold are manufactured. We therefore wish, for the sake of our public and other libraries, that a provision might be added to the bill recognizing the right of any party in America to import for its own use, and not for sale, one copy of any authorized foreign edition of a copyrighted work.

To an American who cares for the intellectual reputation of his country, it is humiliating to have it proclaimed abroad that it has not yet passed the "protection to home industry" stage of economical civilization. But it is impossible at the present time to secure an international copyright law without this proclamation, and we consider it better to secure the measure of justice so loudly called for with the home-manufacture proviso, than not to obtain it at all. A strong rea-

son in favor of this concession is, that it will be easier, at any future time, to have the objectionable proviso stricken out than to pass a copy-right bill. It must also be remembered that even without the proviso it would generally be to the advantage of the authors of widely circulated books both to employ an American house to introduce the book to the American market, and to manufacture the editions designed for this market in America. The adoption or rejection of the proviso is not, therefore, a matter of so much importance to our publishing interests as might at first sight appear. The parties most affected by it are new and comparatively unknown authors, who may find difficulty in securing an American publisher until the success of their works has been proved, when they may be reprinted without their consent, and writers of works the policy of reprinting which may be doubtful, owing either to their expense or their limited circulation. Among the works of this class we may include standard philosophical and scientific treatises. A work of this class might, in the judgment of some publisher, be worth stealing, while the author was vainly seeking a publisher who would pay him. In fact, if the author, from any cause whatever, fails to secure an American manufacturer and publisher who will bring his work out simultaneously with its appearance in his own country, he will be in the position of one trying to sell an article which any one is at liberty to steal from him. All these defects can, however, ultimately be cured, and we would much rather see almost any reasonable law on the subject enacted than have things left in their present condition.

6. — *The Theory of Political Economy*. By W. STANLEY JEYONS, M. A., Professor of Logic and Political Economy in Owens College, Manchester. London and New York. 1871. 8vo. pp. xvi, 627.

THERE are two very different standards by which we may judge such a work as this. The one is its relation to the most advanced thought and the most careful investigations relating to the subject which have been given to the world; the other is the position it occupies with respect to the average thought of the educated public. If we compare Professor Jevons's work with that of Cournot on the same subject, published more than thirty years ago, we cannot but admit that in fertility of method and elegance of treatment it falls far below it. But the latter can be understood only by an expert mathematician, and the number of those who are at the same time mathematicians and economists is too small even to perpetuate the knowledge of such a